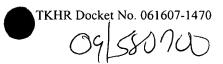# ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system and method are disclosed for analyzing burst statistics from a communications network switch port transmitting data in a bursty communication system, where the burst

5   statistics have been classified according to pre-defined burst ranges and where each burst range corresponds to a predetermined percentage range of the rated port speed, storing the burst statistics, specifying a report period of interest, specifying a plurality of summary periods, retrieving the burst statistics from storage, trending the information to predict future port speed requirements, and then recommending the magnitude of any port speed changes.